

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 098276

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ORIGIN ARA-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

UNCLAS STATE 098276

FOLLOWING REPEATS MONTREAL 501 ACTION SECSTATE INFO OTTAWA

22 APR

QUOTE UNCLAS MONTREAL 501

FOR ARA/LA/BR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, ECRE, BR, PA, CA

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ITAIPU PROJECT DIRECTORS TO GRAND COULEE

REF: HARPER/PASCIA TELECON 4/21/76

1. DOMINION ENGINEERING WORKS LTD HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE
OF CONGEN IN OBTAINING USG INVITATIONAL TO GENERAL CAVALCANTE
AND ENZO DEBERNARDI, CO-DIRECTORS OF ITAIPU PROJECT, TO VISIT
GRAND COULEE AND THE ENGINEERING AND RESEARCH CENTER IN DENVER.
THEY TRIED ARRANGE DIRECTLY THROUGH BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WHICH
REFERRED THEM TO STATE THROUGH THIS OFFICE.

2. ACCORDING MESSAGE FROM DOMINION, THE ITAIPU BINACIONAL
PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN VISITING THE GRAND COULEE-HYDRO
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PAGE 02 STATE 098276

ELECTRIC SITE PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE MANY SIMILARITIES

BETWEEN THE ITAIPU GENERATING STATION AND GRAND COULEE. THEY PARTICULARLY REQUESTED THAT THE INVITATION TO VISIT BE ISSUED BY THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION."

3. THEIR TELEX TO BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, DENVER, COPY GIVEN CONGEN) SAYS, INTER ALIA, PROPOSED SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:
12 MAY, DEPART SPOKANE, VISIT GRAND COULEE, RETURN SPOKANE AND DEPART FOR DENVER; 13 MAY A.M., VISIT TO ENGINEERING AND RESEARCH CENTER DENVER."

4. TELEX CONTINUES: TO AVOID MAIL DELAYS, WILL YOU PLEASE SEND TELEX INVITATION TO BOTH GENTELMEN (EACH TO BE ACCCOMPANIED BY ONE SENIOR ASSOCIATE) WITH ADVICE THAT INVITATION BY MAIL WILL FOLLOW. LETTER FROM DOMINION ENGINEERING TO BUREAU OF RECLAMATION CONFIRMING ABOVE REQUEST WILL FOLLOW BY MAIL. ALL TRANSPORTATION AND HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE BY DOMINION ENGINEERING AND CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC. ALL TRAVELING AND LIVING EXPENSES WILL BE PAID BY THE VISITORS AND/OR DOMINION ENGINEERING/CGE."

5. DOMINION IS A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC WHICH, AS OF MARCH 15, 1975, WAS OWNED (91.9 PERCENT OF COMMON STOCK) BY GE OF NEW YORK.

6. R.P. VAUGHN, MANAGER FOR MARKETING SERVICES WHO CALLED ON CG, POINTED OUT THAT VISIT COULD BE AS USEFUL TO US FIRMS AS TO HIS OWN IN THAT "NO ONE COMPANY COULD HANDLE THIS PROJECT. WE WOULD HOPE TO GET AT MOST SIX OF THE TURBINES. ALLIS-CHALMERS WILL PROBABLY GET ANOTHER THIRD AND PERHAPS SOME THIRD-COUNTRY FIRM THE REST." PROJECT INVOLVES EIGHTEEN TURBINES OF 700; MW EACH.

7. DOMINION DID THE DESIGN AND ENGINEERING OF TURBINES AT GRAND COULEE BUT THEY WERE BUILT (OR AT LEAST ASSEMBLED) UNDER DOMINION SUPERVISION IN THE UNITED STATES.

8. KENT BEBB OF INTERIOR HAS DISCUSSED THIS IN FULL WITH R.S. ALLAN OF DOMINION AND MAY BE ABLE TO FILL IN ANY GAPS. IN TELECON YESTERDAY HE GAVE ME IMPRESSION JOINT DIRECTORS WOULD NOT ACCEPT INVITATION FROM ANY REPEAT ANY PRIVATE ORGANIZATION, UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 098276

SO DOMINION OFFER IN PARA FOUR ABOVE MAY BE UNHELPFUL, IN ADDITION TO SEEMING INAPPROPRIATE IF USG IS TO INVITE THEM.

9. DOMINION WILL APPRECIATE ANSWER SOONEST AS THEY HOPE FOR EARLY MAY VISIT. CG EXPLAINED THAT REPLY COULD NOT BE EXPECTED OVERNIGHT AS SEVERAL ELEMENTS OF OUR GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE AN INTEREST IN THIS MATTER. DOMINION MAY FOLLOW UP WITH APPROACH THROUGH CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. HARPER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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